

MUNICIPAL CHARTERS

mayor shall return all ordinances to the clerk-treasurer within six days after delivery to him (excluding the first day, including the last day, and excluding any Sunday) with his approval or disapproval. Any ordinance approved by the mayor shall be law. Any ordinance disapproved by the mayor shall return with a message stating the reasons for his disapproval. Any disapproved ordinance shall not become a law unless subsequently passed by a favorable vote of three-fourths of the whole council within thirty-five calendar days from the time of the return of the ordinance. If the mayor fails to return any ordinance within six days of its delivery, it shall be deemed to be approved by the mayor and shall become the law in the same manner as an ordinance signed by him.

16. Referendum.

I, before the expiration of twenty calendar days following approval of any ordinance by the mayor or passage of any ordinance over the mayor's veto, a petition is filed with the clerk-treasurer containing the signatures of not less than twenty per centum (20%) of the qualified voters of the town and requesting that the ordinance, or any part thereof, be submitted to a vote of the qualified voters of the town for their approval or disapproval, the council shall have the ordinance, or the part thereof requested for referendum, submitted to a vote of the qualified voters of the town at the next regular town election or, in the council's discretion, at a special election occurring before the next regular election. No ordinance, or the part thereof requested for referendum, shall become effective following the receipt of such petition until and unless approved at the election by a majority of the qualified voters voting on the question. An emergency ordinance, or the part thereof requested for referendum, shall continue in effect for sixty days following receipt of such petition. If the question of approval or disapproval of any emergency ordinance, or any part thereof, has not been submitted to the qualified voters within sixty days following receipt of the petition, the operation of the ordinance, or the part thereof requested for referendum, shall be suspended until approved by a majority of the qualified voters voting on the question at any election. Any ordinance, or part thereof, disapproved by the voters shall stand repealed. The provisions of this section shall not apply to any ordinance, or part thereof, passed under the authority of section 62, levying property taxes for the payment of indebtedness, but the provisions of this section shall apply to any ordinance, or any part thereof, levying special assessment charges under the provisions of sections 92 and 93. The provisions of this section shall be selfexecuting, but the council may adopt